



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Corning Tower

The Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller Empire State Plaza

Albany, New York 12237

Antonia C. Novello, M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.
Commissioner

Dennis P. Whalen
Executive Deputy Commissioner

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Re.: NYS EMT/AEMT BLS Albuterol Protocol

This updated protocol reflects a change in the concentration/dose of Albuterol to be administered. The original version had a typo in the concentration listing Albuterol at 0.83%. This updated version of the protocol lists the correct concentration of Albuterol as 0.083%.

Please remove the old protocol from your protocol manual and replace it with this updated version.

If you have any questions please feel free to call our Education Unit at (518) 402-0996, ext. 1, 4.

Nebulized Albuterol

Note:

This protocol is for patients between one and sixty-five years of age, who are experiencing an exacerbation of their previously diagnosed asthma.

Note:

**Request Advanced Life Support if available.
Do not delay transport to the appropriate hospital.**

- I. Perform initial assessment.
- II. Assure that the patient's airway is open and that the breathing and circulation are adequate.

Note:

If patient exhibits signs of imminent respiratory failure, refer to the Adult or Pediatric Respiratory Arrest Protocol.

- III. Administer high concentration oxygen.
- IV. Place the patient in the Fowler's or Semi Fowler's position.
- V. Do not allow physical activity or exertion.
- VI. Assess vital signs, ability to speak in complete sentences, accessory muscle use, wheezing, patient's assessment of breathing difficulties and through the use of a peak flow meter, Borg Scale, or other method.
- VII. Begin transportation.

Note:

For patients with a history of Angina, Myocardial Infarction, Arrhythmia or Congestive Heart Failure, medical control MUST be contacted prior to administration of Albuterol!

Nebulized Albuterol, continued

- VIII. Administer Albuterol Sulfate 0.083%, one (1) unit dose in a nebulizer at a flow rate of 4 – 6 LPM. **DO NOT delay transport to complete medication!**
- IX. Re-assess vital signs, ability to speak in complete sentences, accessory muscle use, wheezing, patient's assessment of breathing difficulties and through the use of a peak flow meter, Borg Scale, or other method.
- X. If patient's symptoms persist, a second administration of nebulized Albuterol may be administered. A maximum of two (2) total doses may be given.
- XI. Ongoing assessment. Obtain and record the patient's vital signs enroute as often as the situation indicates.
- XII. Record all patient care information, including the patient's medical history and all treatment provided on a Prehospital Care Report (PCR).